

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A system for retrieving data, comprising:
a client device programmed to create a communications channel in response to selecting an element displayed on a page and to communicate information about the element via the communications channel, the client device displaying on the page information based on response data received via the communications channel.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein the client device is programmed to create a container on the page in response to the element being selected, the container being used to display the information based on response data received via the communications channel.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein the response data received via the communications channel programs the client device dynamically to display the information on the page.
4. The system of claim 3, wherein the response data received via the communications channel dynamically programs the client device to at least one of copy and transfer at least some of the response data to a container for displaying the information based on the at least some of the response data on the page relative to the selected element.
5. The system of claim 4, wherein the client device is programmed to create the container on the page in response to the element being selected.
6. The system of claim 5, wherein the container is positioned adjacent to the selected element.

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7. The system of claim 5, wherein the information displayed in the container further includes selectable container elements.

8. The system of claim 7, wherein, in response to selecting at least one container element, the client device is further programmed to communicate via the communications channel information about the at least one container element.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein the communications channel is an inline floating frame programmed to access a resource on the server.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein the resource on the server is an Active Server Page associated with a database.

11. The system of claim 1, wherein the information about the element includes at least one of a uniform resource locator and metadata associated with the displayed page.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein the selected element includes at least one word.

13. The system of claim 1, wherein the displayed page further includes a plurality of selectable elements and the selected element includes at least one of the selectable elements.

14. A system for retrieving data, comprising:
a first computer programmed to, in response to selecting at least an element on a page displayed at the first computer, create a communications channel at the first computer and send first data indicative of the selected element via the communications channel; and

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a second computer operative to receive the first data, the second computer being programmed to send to the communications channel response data related to the selected element;

wherein the first computer displays on the page information based on the response data.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the first computer is further programmed, in response to the element being selected, to create a container on the page, the container being employed to display the information based on the response data.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the information displayed in the container further includes selectable container elements.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein, in response to selecting at least one container element, the first computer is further programmed to communicate to the second computer via the communications channel information about the at least one container element.

18. The system of claim 14, wherein the response data contains computer-executable instructions for programming the first computer dynamically to display the information on the page based on the response data.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein the computer-executable instructions further program the first computer to at least one of copy and transfer at least some of the response data to a container for displaying information on the page relative to the selected element based on the at least some of the response data.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein, in response to the element being selected, the first computer is programmed to create the container on the page.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein the container is positioned adjacent to the selected element.

22. The system of claim 14, wherein the communications channel includes an inline floating frame programmed to access a resource at the second computer.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein the resource at the second computer is an Active Server Page associated with a database.

24. The system of claim 14, wherein the first data further includes at least one of a uniform resource locator and metadata associated with the page displayed at the first computer.

25. The system of claim 14, wherein the selected element includes at least one word.

26. The system of claim 14, wherein the page displayed being displayed at the first computer further includes a plurality of selectable elements, the selected element including at least one of the plurality of selectable elements.

27. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps comprising:

creating a channel at a first computer for communicating information in response to selecting an element on a displayed page;

submitting to a second computer via the channel data indicative of the selected element;

receiving at the first computer from the second computer data corresponding to the selected element via the channel; and

displaying on the displayed page information based on the received data.

28. The computer-readable medium of claim 27 having further computer-executable instructions for performing the step of creating a container on the displayed page in response to the element being selected, the information based on the received data being displayed in the container.

29. The computer-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the information displayed in the container further includes selectable container elements, the computer-readable medium having further computer-executable instructions for, in response to selecting at least one container element, performing the step of submitting to the second computer via the channel information about the at least one container element.

30. The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the received data further includes computer-executable instructions for performing the step of dynamically programming the first computer to display the information on the displayed page.

31. The computer-readable medium of claim 30, wherein the received data further includes computer-executable instructions for dynamically programming the first computer to at least one of copy and transfer at least some of the received data from the channel to a container for displaying on the page information based on at least some of the received data.

32. The computer-readable medium of claim 31 having further computer-executable instructions for performing the step of creating the container on the displayed page of the first computer in response to the element being selected.

33. The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the channel is an inline floating frame programmed to access a resource at the second computer.

34. The computer-readable medium of claim 33, wherein the resource at the second computer is an Active Server Page.

35. The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the data indicative of the selected element further includes at least one of a uniform resource locator and metadata associated with the displayed page.

36. The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the displayed page further includes a plurality of selectable elements, the selected element including at least one of the selectable elements.

37. A method for dynamically retrieving data, comprising the steps of:
selecting an element on a page displayed at a first computer;
creating at the first computer a channel for communicating information about the element;
submitting to a second computer data indicative of the selected element via the channel;
receiving at the first computer response data corresponding to the selected element;
and
displaying on the page information based on the received data.

38. The method of claim 37, further including the step of creating a container on the displayed page in response to the element being selected, the information based on the received data being displayed in the container.

39. The method of claim 38, wherein the information displayed in the container further includes selectable container elements, the method further including step of, in response to selecting at least one container element, sending to the second computer via the channel data indicative of the at least one container element.

40. The method of claim 39, wherein the received data further includes computer-executable instructions for performing the step of dynamically programming the first computer to display the information on the displayed page.

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41. The method of claim 40, wherein the received data further includes computer-executable instructions for dynamically programming the first computer to at least one of copy and transfer at least some of the received data from the channel to a container for displaying on the page information based on at least some of the retrieved data.

42. The method of claim 41, further including the step of creating the container on the displayed page of the first computer in response to the element being selected.

43. The method of claim 37, wherein the channel is an inline floating frame programmed to access a resource at the second computer.

44. The method of claim 43, wherein the resource at the second computer is an Active Server Page associated with a database.

45. The method of claim 37, wherein the data indicative of the selected element further includes at least one of a uniform resource locator and metadata associated with the displayed page.

46. The method of claim 37, wherein the displayed page further includes a plurality of selectable elements, the selected element including at least one of the selectable elements.

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